

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the claims in order to delete the multiple dependent claims and to significantly reduce the initial filing fee. Applicants have however, retained the right to reintroduce the canceled subject matter at any time during the pendency of this application.

Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of the Search Report which issued on International Application No. PCT/JP02/05279, of which the present application is continuation. All of the publications cited in the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and included herewith. However, the undersigned does not have an English translation to three of the references as so marked on the Form 1449.

In view of the above amendments to the claims, an early action on the merits is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

By: Richard E. Fichter
Richard E. Fichter
Registration No. 26,382

625 Slaters Lane, 4th Fl.
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Phone: (703) 683-0500
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

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